

DETAILED ACTION

1. An amendment was received from applicant on 3/22/2010.
2. Claims 1, 4, 8 and 11 are amended.
3. Claims 1, 3, 5-7, 9, 10 and 12-16 are canceled.
4. Claims 17-31 are new.
5. Claims 2, 4, 8, 11 and 17-31 are remaining in the application.
6. Claims 2, 4, 8, 11 and 17-31 are allowed.

Drawings

7. In view of applicant's amendment to the claims, the previous drawing objection is withdrawn and the drawings received on 21 October 2005 are accepted.

Reasons for Allowance

8. The following is an Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The claimed planing amphibious vehicle as claimed by applicant is not disclosed, taught or suggested by the prior art. Specifically, the prior art does not disclose, teach or suggest the explicitly recited planing amphibious vehicle steering arrangement that includes a retractable wheel hub assembly, power assisted steering unit, steering or rack arm, bracket, rod or link, bell crank and cable, all connected and configured as claimed by applicant to steer the marine propulsion unit for the vehicle.

Conclusion

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Daniel V. Venne whose telephone number is (571) 272-7947. The examiner can normally be reached between 7:30AM - 4:00PM.

The prior art cited and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Wilson (US 4384542) discloses a boom [16] attachable to a boat tower [12].

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Samuel J. Morano can be reached on (571) 272-6684. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Daniel V Venne/

4/20/2010

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3617